**Third Grade News ~ Sept. 12, 2018**

Language Arts

In reading, things are off to a great start. We have been working on the first reading Unit of Study. I am hoping that the children are bringing home what they learned in class to use with their books at home. **Please be aware that your child has reading log homework each school night for 15 minutes or more**. On Mondays, I collect and check the log for 5 homework points. There are not many grades in reading and language arts, so these homework points are really important to their grade. One more thing about the reading log, please have your child write his/her own reading down and have him/her fill in all of the boxes each night. We are trying to help the students become independent and having them do their own homework is helpful in achieving independence.

I am reading Stone Fox to the class and we are applying the lesson to that book each day. The students will then read on their own and apply the skills. Sometimes we have a chance to do a sharing time, where they share what they learned. Ask your child what they have learned so far in Stone Fox. The skills we are discussing are character traits, predictions, and summaries/retelling.

Math

Thank you parents for registering your child for Xtramath. We will begin using Xtramath this Friday, September 14th. The students are expected to utilize the program on **at least three different days per week**. Students will earn a maximum of three homework points for Xtramath per week. Students should complete all activities until the teacher in the program has told him/her that they are “Done.” If you do not have access to a computer or internet, Morely Library has computers for public use. Also, Xtramath has an app that can be downloaded to an ipad or smartphone for a small fee of $5.00.

We are continuing to work on multiplication and division. The students are learning how to find related multiplication facts by adding and subtraction equal groups in array models, as well as how to model the distributive property of multiplication. I have posted on my classroom website under links and forms, links that will take you to the “Eureka” website for additional support. The links provide information such as homework videos, student worksheets, along with other helpful hints to support your student’s learning.

As a reminder, students should not be spending more than about 20 minutes on homework sheets. If your child becomes overly frustrated, please just jot a note on the homework assignment to let me know how long they worked on it and return it with your child the next day. Your child will receive homework credit. This feedback from you helps me to be aware that your child needs addition support on the given skills.

Science

In Science we have spent time learning about the scientific method and how to think like scientist! We especially had fun going through the method together while doing a fun bubble experiment. Be sure to have your child tell you all about it. We will next shift our focus to Earth Science. The students will be learning about the properties of soil and rocks, the difference between renewable and nonrenewable energy resources, and why some of Earth’s resources are limited and ways to conserve these resources.

Social Studies

We have been discussing how our community has changed over time and will be moving into timelines. If your child has not brought back his/her list of events for our activity, please send that back tomorrow. We just had our first Ohio Studies Weekly quiz on Monday and I can tell that the students are having trouble looking back into the text to find the answers. Please encourage your child to study the back page and become familiar where the big topics are located in the paper, the night before the quiz. Always send the paper back so that the children can use it for the test.

Odds & Ends

Thank you for signing the assignment books. Parent and teacher communication is so important. If you see that the page is blank, remind your child that he/she is provided time to fill it out in class. Also, please be sure to check your child’s behavior calendar in his/her folder. It should be colored on a daily basis with the highest and lowest color they have been on throughout the day. Please talk to your child about your expectations for their daily behavior. At the end of each week, we ask that you sign the box showing that you are aware of your child’s behavior. Thank you in advance!

Reminders:

~ We will be going to Pioneer School on Friday, Sept. 14th. Chaperones should meet us at the Lake County Historical Society at 9:50am.

~ Please dress your child for the weather, the field trip is outside.

~ Book fair:

Yamamoto’s class – Wednesday, Sept. 19th 12:15-12:50 pm.

Collins’ class - Thursday, Sept. 20th 12:55-1:30 pm.

~ Xtramath homework points will begin this Friday, Sept. 14th.

~Pastries with Parents – Sept. 21st